

Hidden Footprints

(January 28, 2024, Glen G. Scorgie)

Scripture Reading: Psalm 77

SERMON SUMMARY

In the midst of life's challenges and dispiriting circumstances, it is natural in our anxiety to ask: "Where are you, God? How do I know that you still care, that you are still watching over us?" Psalm 77 asks these very questions. And the answers comes back:

First, remember God's faithful provisions to you in the past. The spiritual discipline of *remembering* is an important way we can firewall our hearts against despair (v. 11). *Second*, look carefully for, and be attentive to, those *hidden signs* of God's watchfulness over us day by day (that is, to the signs of his providential care). Otherwise, we might easily miss his telltale "footprints" on our path (v. 19). And *third*, understand and appreciate that God's care for us is often *mediated* through the people God brings into our lives for good (v. 20). They are often the instruments through whom he extends his care to us.

Where are you, God? I am right here with you now.

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. What was your main personal takeaway from the message this week?
2. Do you agree there is an epidemic of loneliness in our society these days? If so, what do you consider the main causes of it?
3. In what situations have you perhaps experienced loneliness yourself?
4. Sometimes we need a bit of "down time" to be alone and recharge our batteries. What is the difference between loneliness and solitude?
5. What *practical difference* does it make to know that our heavenly Father is close to us at every moment, and watching over the circumstances of our lives, and orchestrating events for our good?
6. What kind of *evidence* do you find most compelling and assuring that our heavenly Father really is *with us* and is a guiding presence in our lives?